# The Fifteen 95 and other Prayers



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William Carton





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## The Fisteen D's, and other Prapers.

Printed by commandment of the Princels Elizabeth,

Queen of England and of France, and also
of the Princels Hargaret, Hother
of our Sovereign Lord
the King.

By their most humble subject and ferbant,

### William Carton.

(circa m.cccc.pc.)

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Reproduced in Photo-lithography by Stephen Ayling.



Griffith and Farran, Corner of St. Paul's Churthyard. mdccclrix.

#### Dedicated to

Sir William Stirling Marwell, Bart.,

in recognition of his patronage

and encouragement,

By his obedient Cerbant,

Stephen Ayling.



P presenting, in exact fae-simile, one of the choicest productions of England's first printer, it may be as well to flate that the original is one of the most beautiful and unique specimens of early English typography that is anywhere to be found. It differs in figle from every other production from Carton's prefs, in that each page is furrounded by an ornamental border. The type is the same as that used by him for the Airgil of 1490: the woodcut of the crucificion, which appears on the reverse of the first leaf, erhibits considerable artistic merit, and was subfequently used by Wynkyn te Worde, and also by Ponson. in several of their publications. The original is without title, and no date is given in the colophon; but as the Lady Elizabeth (of Pork) was not united to Benry (of Lancaster), afterwards benry vii., until 1486, this interesting little volume, (the date of Carton's death being 1491), must have issued from the press between those years; most probably about 1490. The volume in which it was found is in the original binding, and contains in addition, certain tracks printed by Wynkyn de Worde, and is exhibited to the public in the King's Library in Cafe viii., devoted to specimens of the earliest productions of the printing press in

England. The original volume is in good preservation, though much cropped in the binding; the measurement being 6% in. by 5 in. It was fecured for the Mational Collection in 1851 by Sir Anthony Panizzi, at that time Reeper of the Devartment of Printed Books, having been purchated by him of the late Or. Pickering for 250%. The prapers contained in this volume are called "The fifteen D's," from the fact of its containing that number of prapers, with others in Latin, commencing with the exclamation D; they are common in the manuscript Borae of the 15th Century, and have frequently been reprinted both in the original Latin and in English, Carton's version being possibly the earliest. This collection is noticed by Dr. Thomas Fuller, as being the first book of prayers tending to promote the Reformation: however this may be, they breathe a fririt of earnest devotion, and present a good illustration of the religious manuals of the period. It is more than probable that this is the first book of prayers in English issued by the followers of Wickliffe, and cannot but be interesting as having prepared the way for the great moral and spiritual changes that ended in the Reformation.

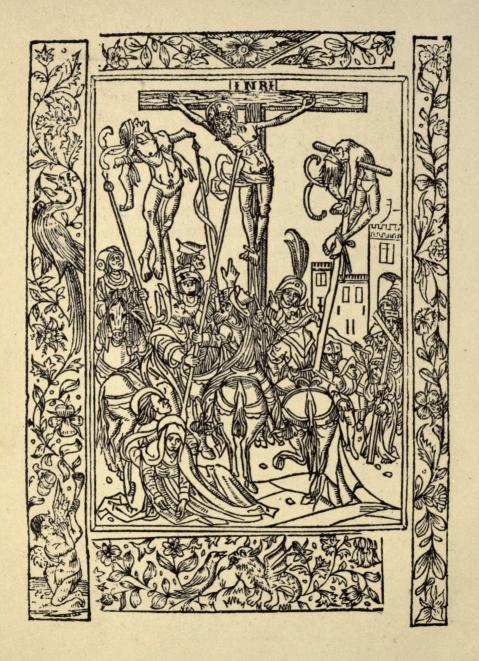
The Library of the British Quseum, as might have been expected, contains the greatest number of books printed by Carton that have ever been brought together. It includes among its treasures as many as eighty-eight pieces from his press, including fragments, and the two rare tracks discovered not long since by Wr. Winter Jones, the present Principal Librarian; of which a very interesting account may be seen in a letter addressed by that gentleman to the late Sir Henry Ellis, and printed in the papers of the Society of Antiquaries.\* Of these no less than eleven are unique.

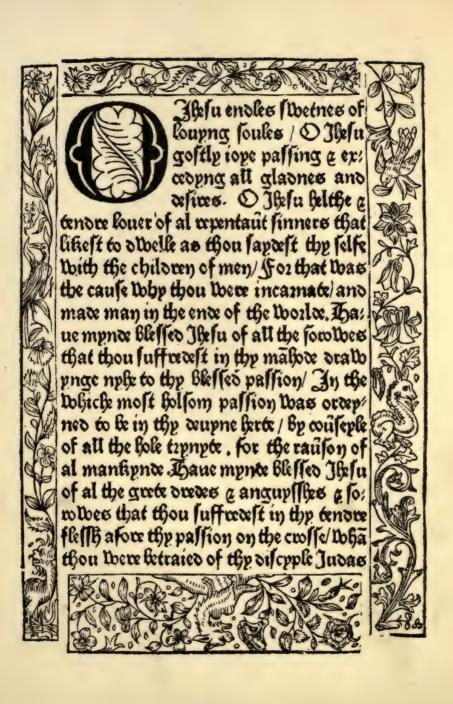
It is fingular that out of ninety-four works enumerated in Blades' admirable "Life and Typography of William Carton," no less than thirty-three are known to us only by fingle copies, or by fragments. "If," as is remarked by Or. Blades, "more than one-third of Carton's issue has been nearly destroyed, how numerous may have been the editions of which we shall probably never learn the existence."

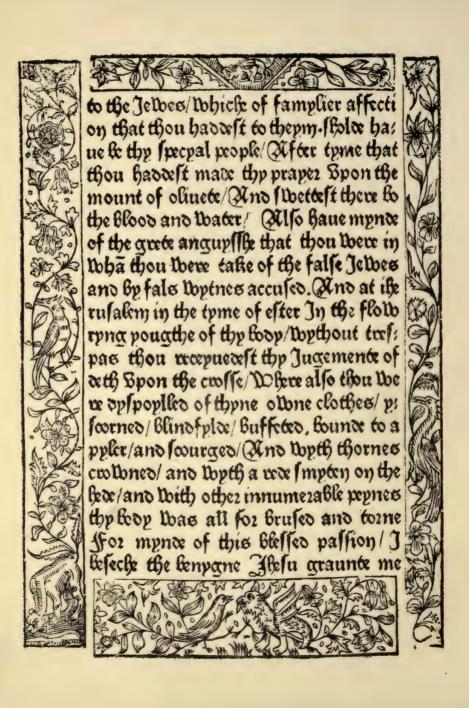
In concluding these brief remarks upon this unique little volume, it only remains to say, that we are indebted to Wr. Winter Jones, for obtaining the permission granted by the Crustees, to reproduce this rare volume in

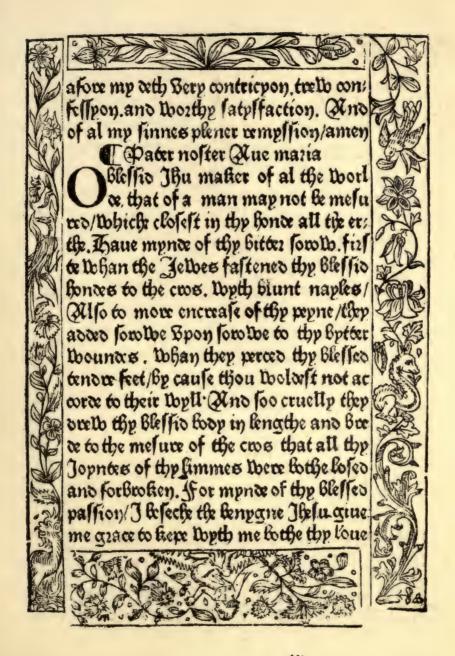
Photo-lithography by Ar. Ayling, who has done fo much to promote this modern process of reproduction; thereby bringing this bibliographic treasure not only within the reach of every collector of Carton's productions, but also by its price, within that, even of the humblest of the lovers of old books.

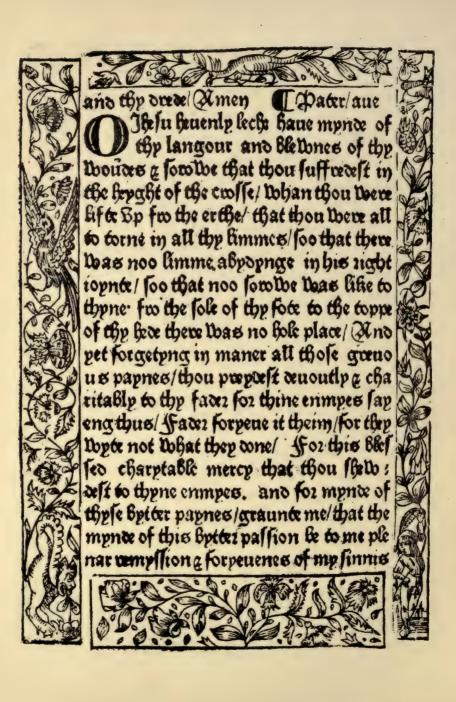


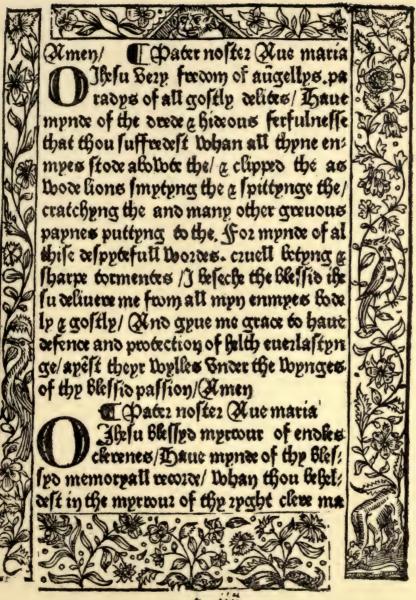


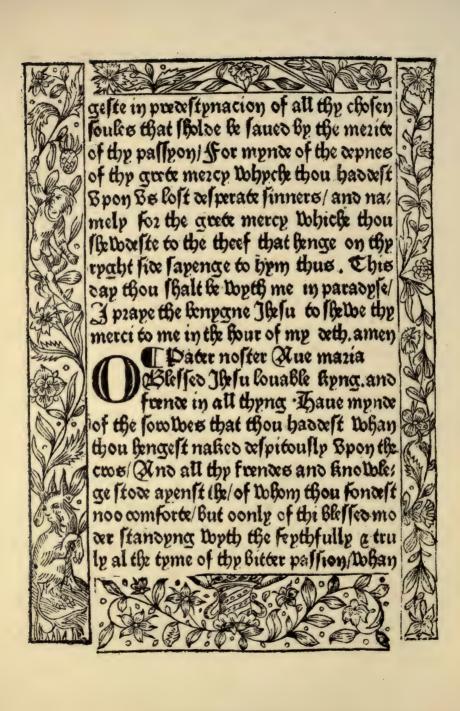


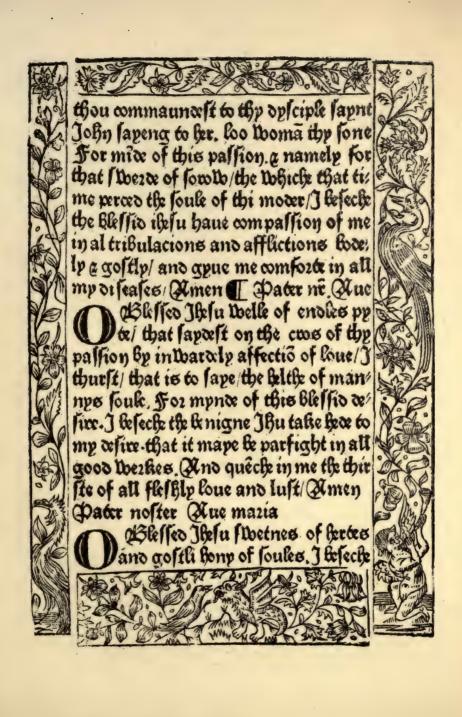


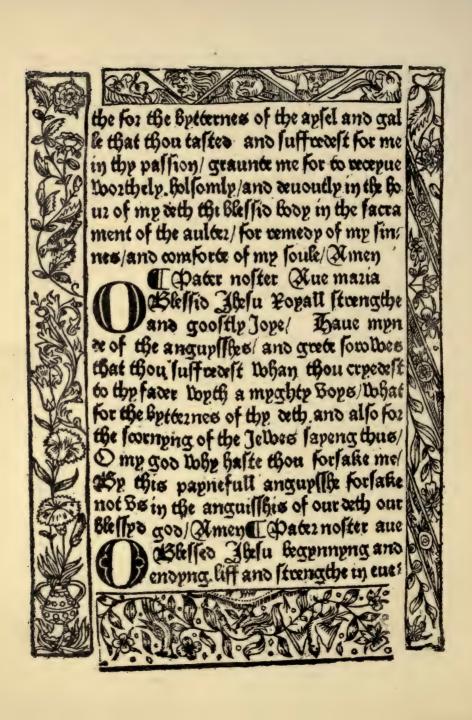


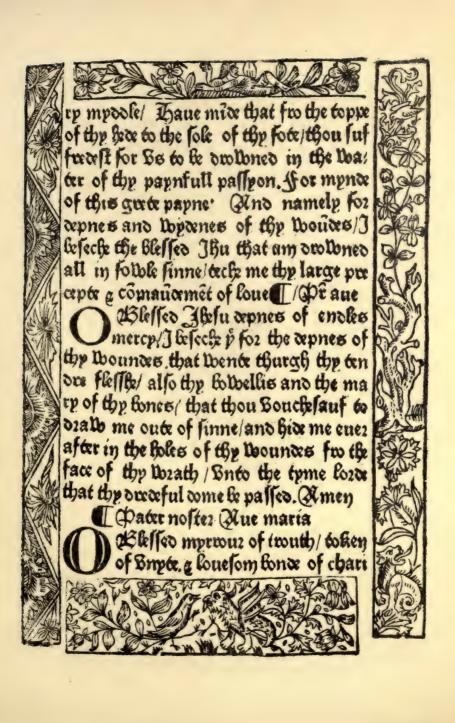


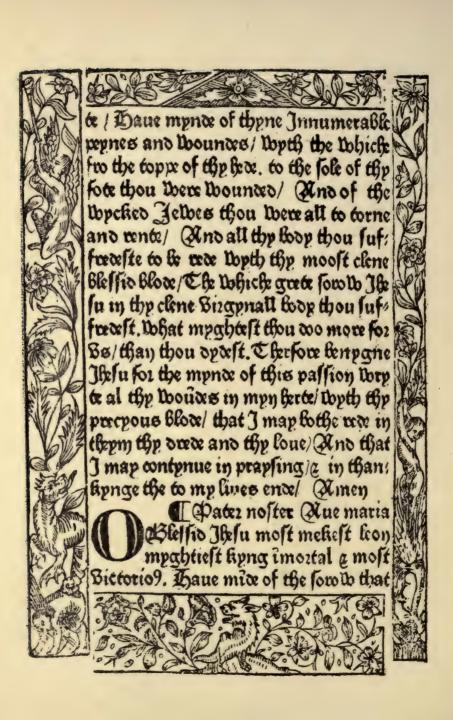


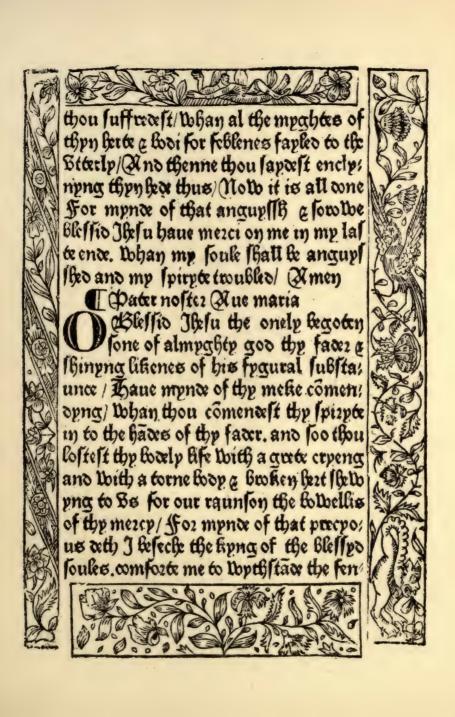


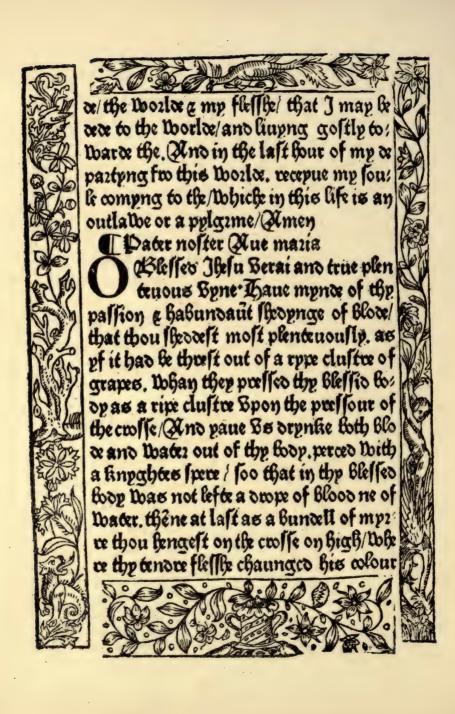


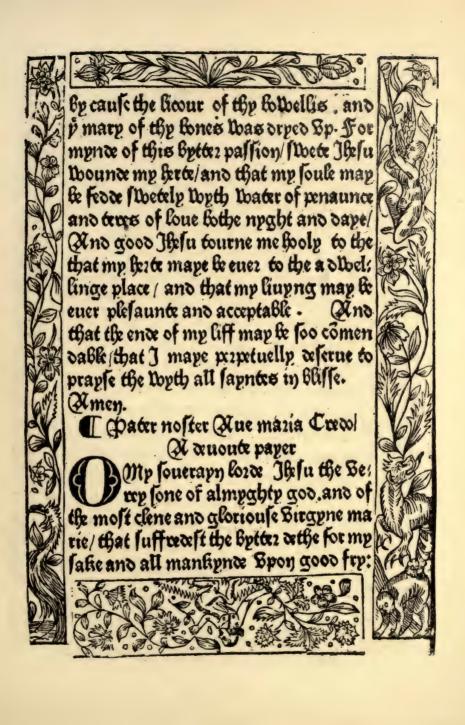


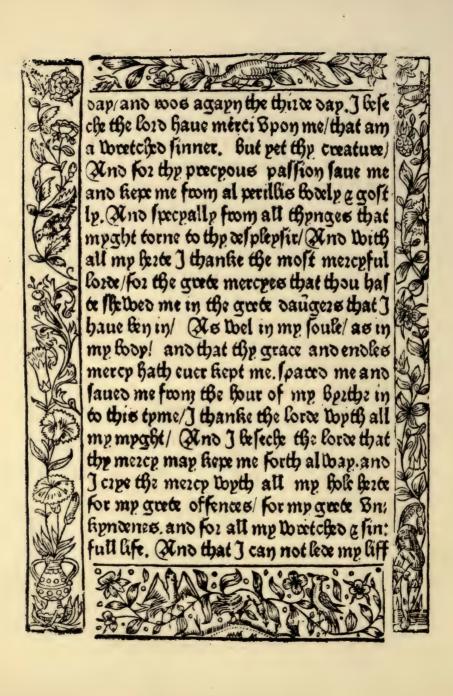




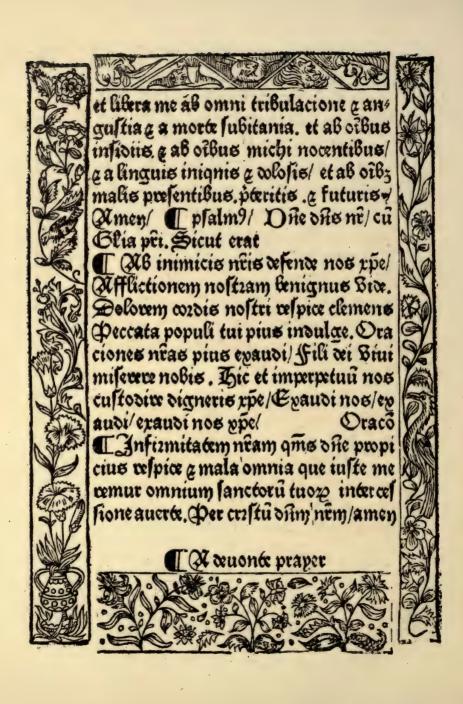


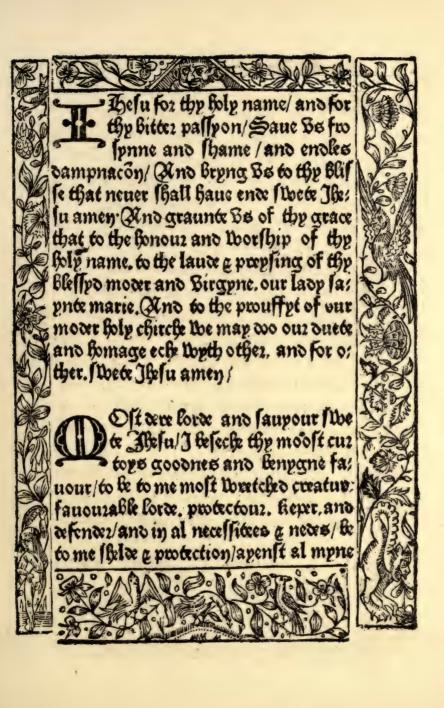


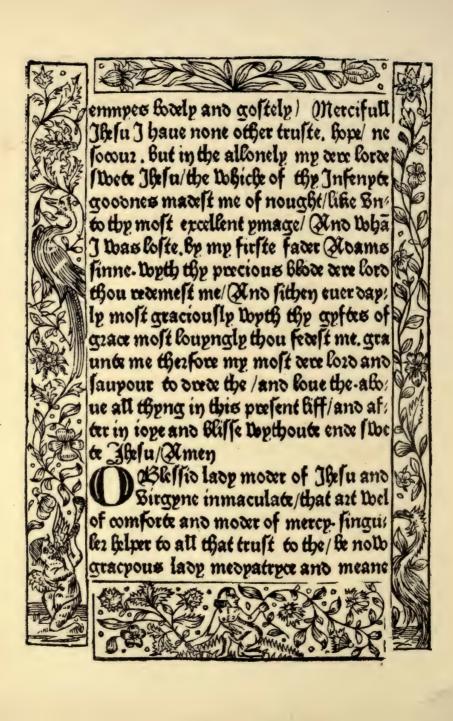


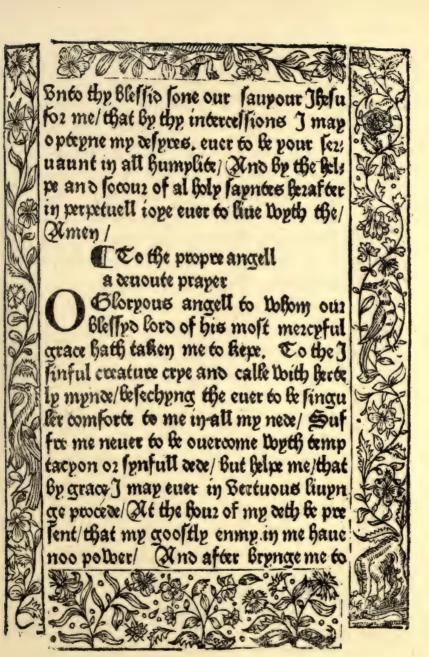


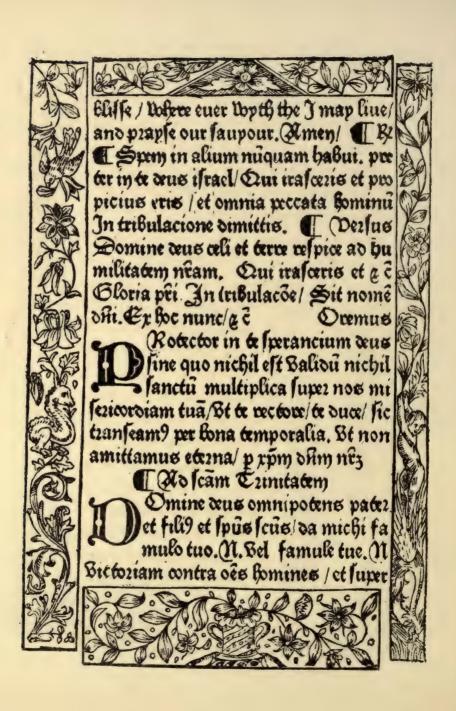
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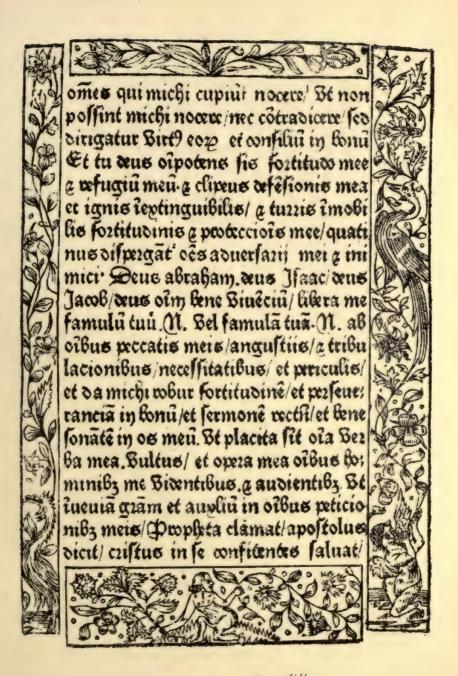


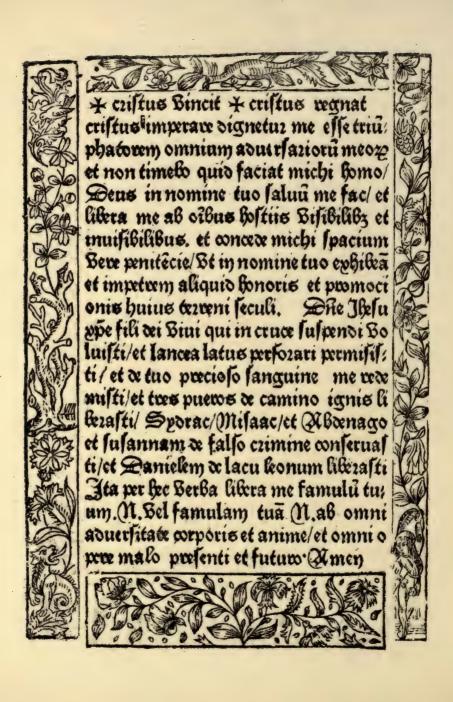


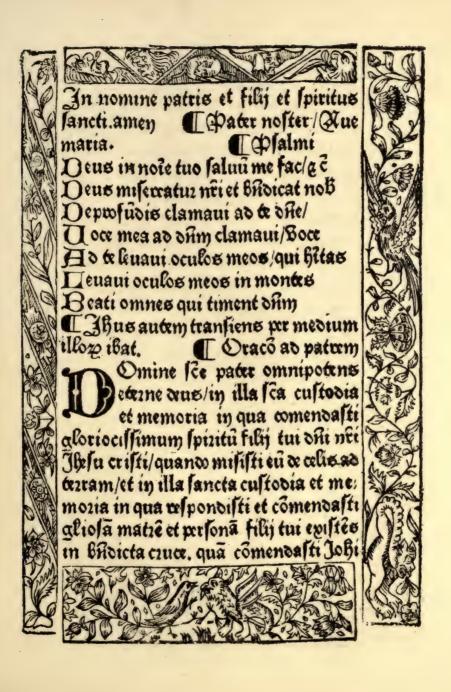


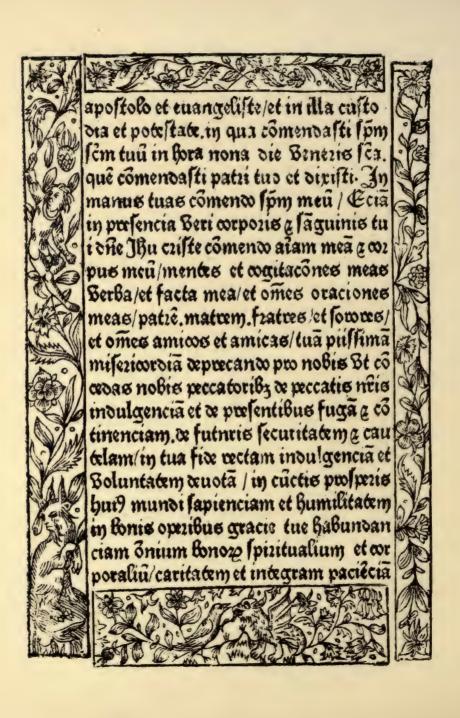


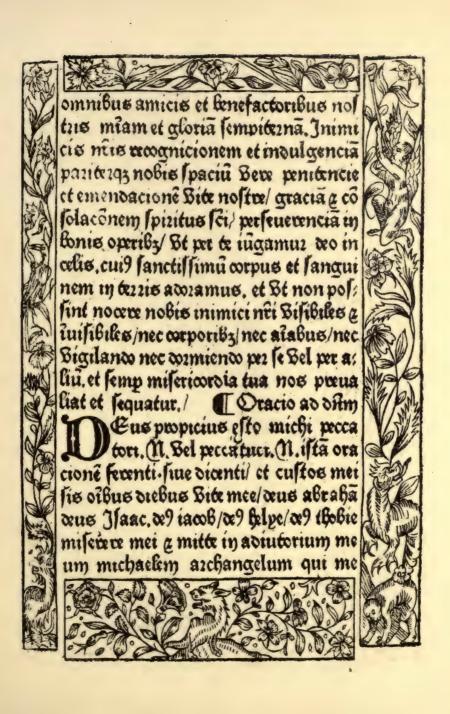


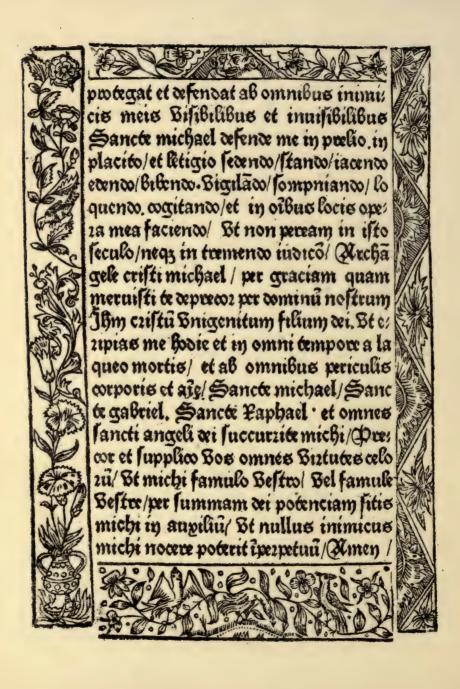


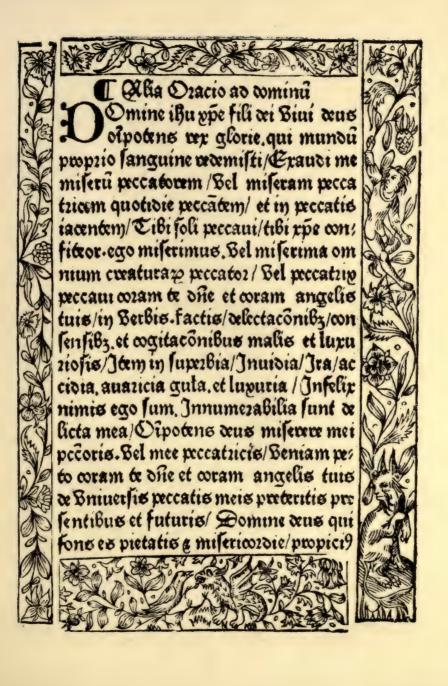


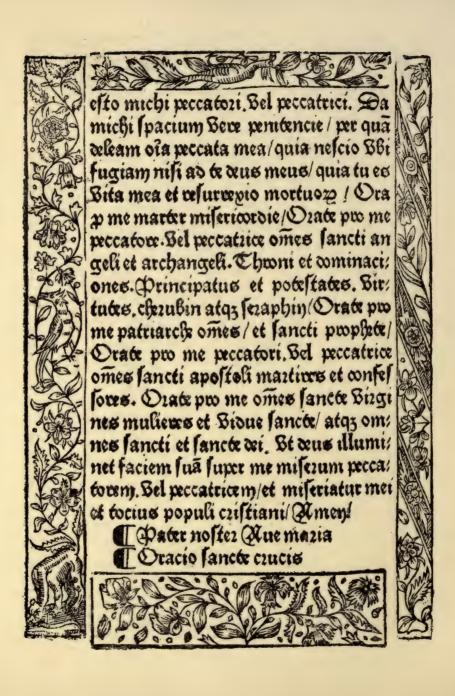


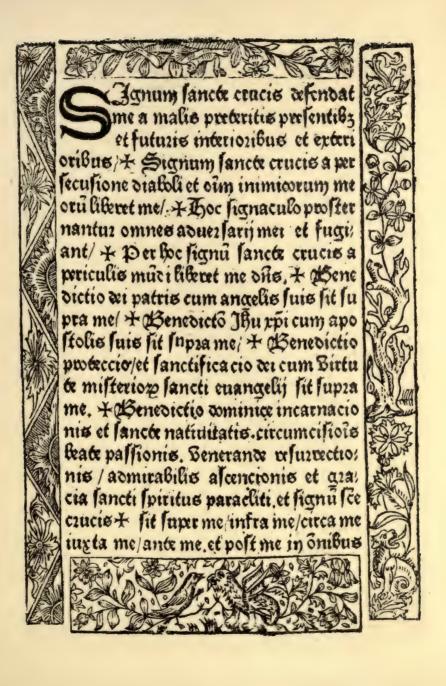


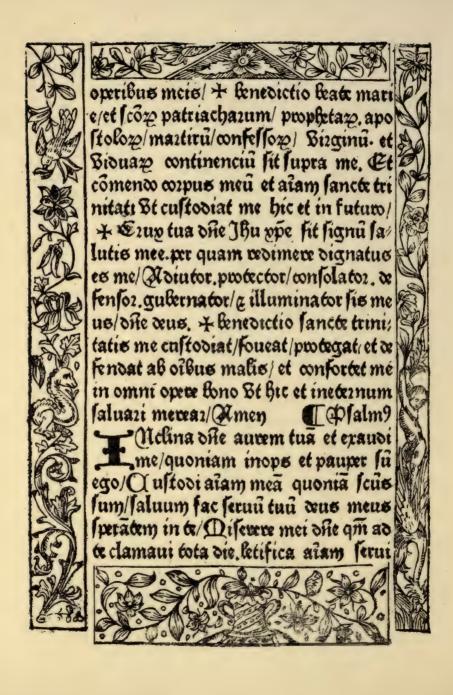


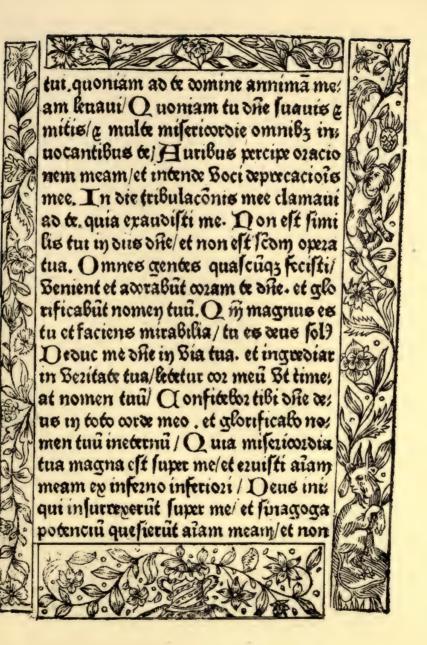


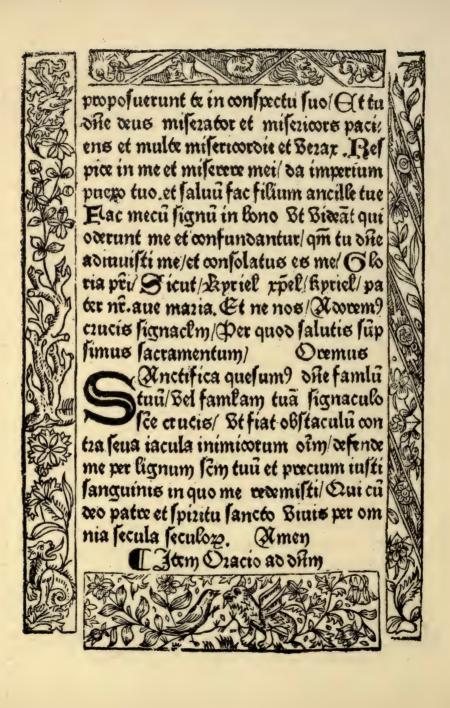


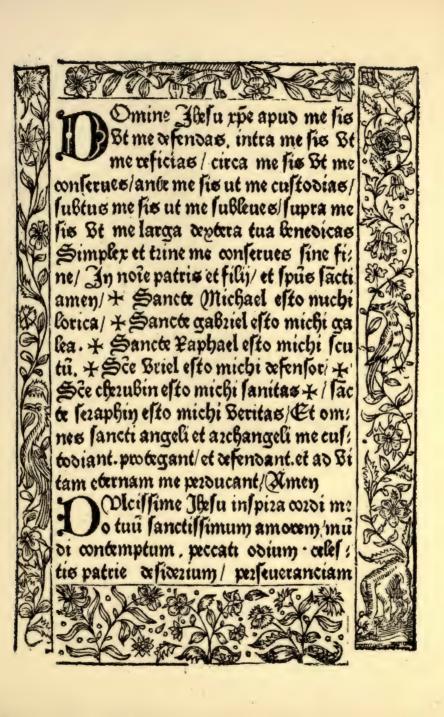


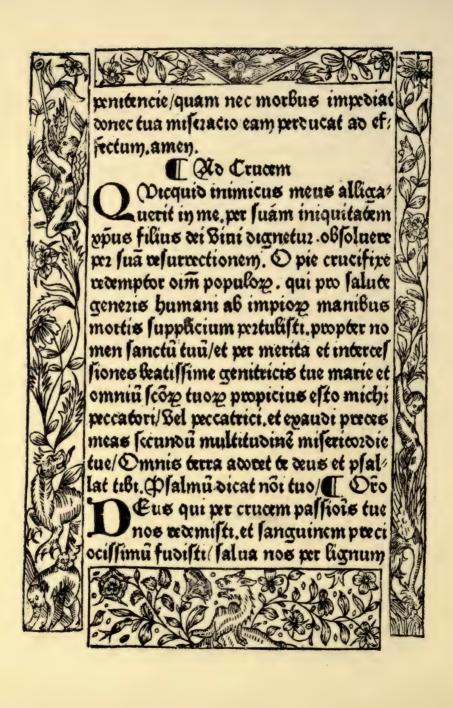


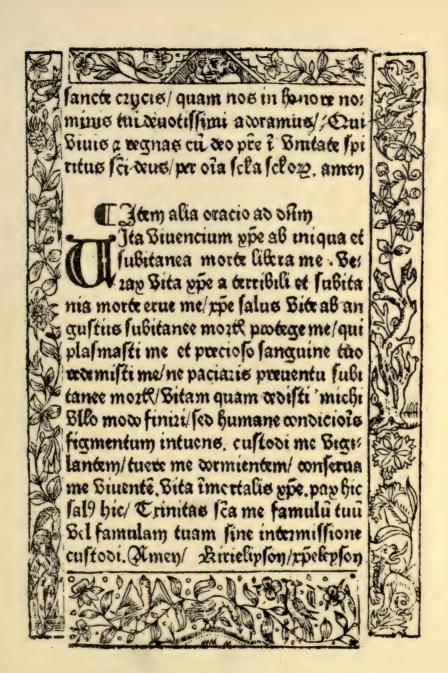


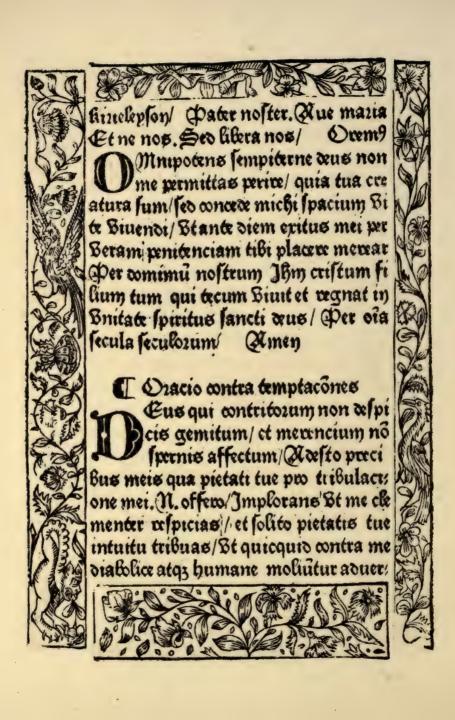


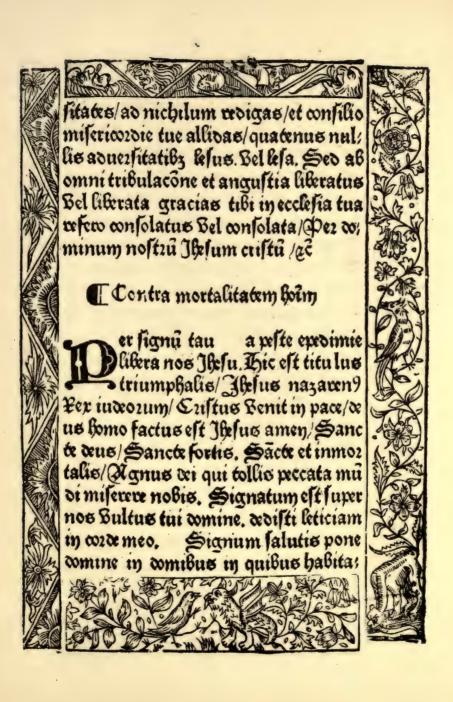


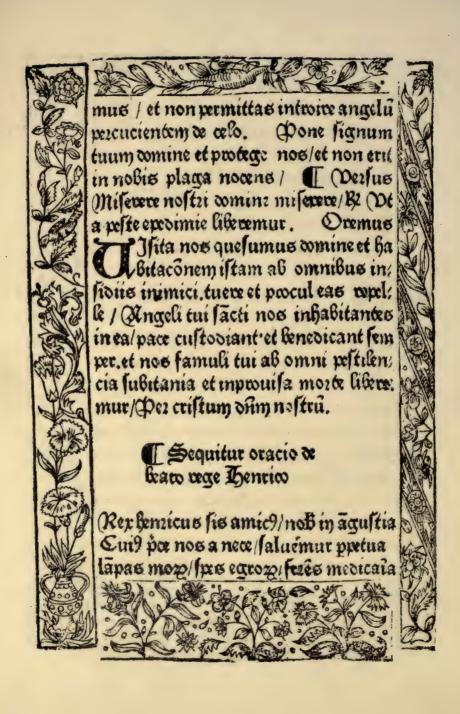


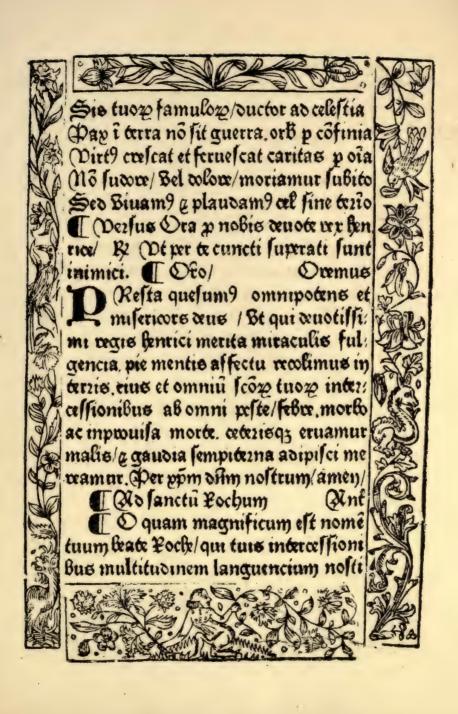


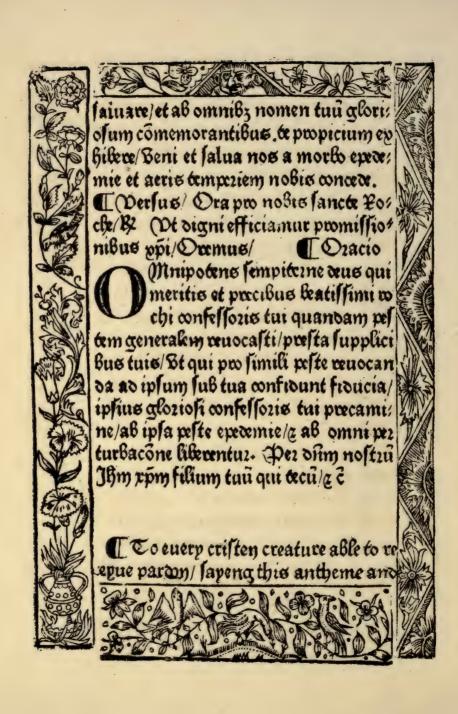


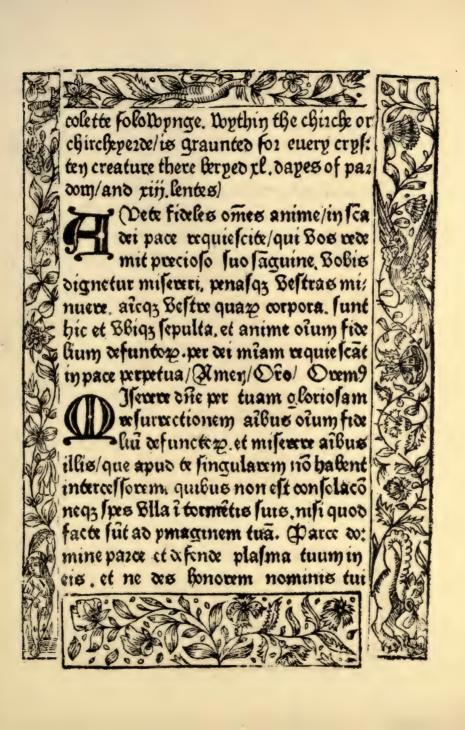


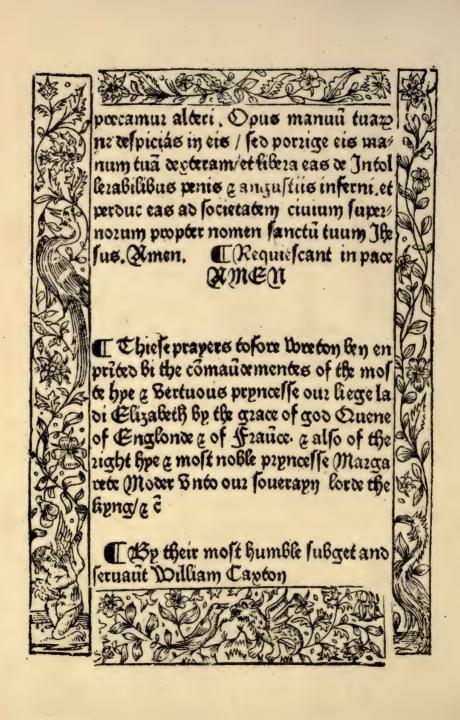












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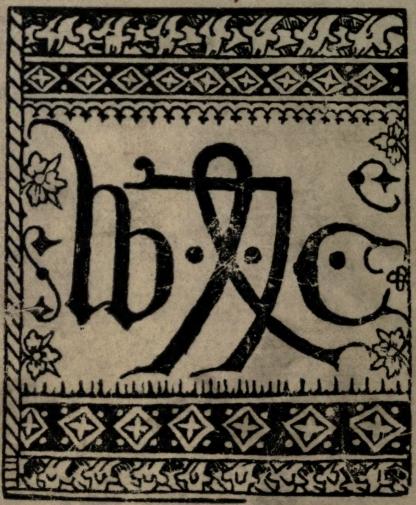
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